

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**CUSTOMER NO. 22927**

Applicants: Walker *et al.*  
Application No.: 09/274,281  
Filed: March 22, 1999  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING CROSS-BENEFITS  
VIA A CENTRAL AUTHORITY

Attorney Docket No.: 99-006  
Group Art Unit: 2169  
Confirmation No.: 8188  
Examiner: AL HASHEMI, Sana A.

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as (i) a representation that a thorough search has been made; (ii) an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability; (iii) an admission that no other material information exists; or (iv) an admission that Applicants agree with any statement(s) in the information cited. Nor shall the filing of this information disclosure statement be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and to independently ascertain their teaching.

**Fees**

A fee is due for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee. Please charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. **50-0271** as the fee set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271.

Respectfully submitted,

May 4, 2009

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